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Construction of a bridge across the Muniyeru in Nandigama taluk.

* 464 *Q.*—Sri V. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the amount allotted for the construction of a bridge across Muniyeru, Nandigama taluk, in the year 1951–52 and what is the actual expenditure incurred; and

(*b*) at what stage the work stands now?

The Hon. Sri N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The amount allotted for the work in the Budget Estimate for 1951–52 was Rs. 2 lakhs. No expenditure was, however, incurred on the work, as the investigation of the work was not completed.

" (*b*) Rough proposals submitted by the Divisional Engineer (Highways) Designs, for the construction of a submersible bridge at a cost of Rs. 2,20,000, in lieu of the bridge work previously sanctioned, are now under the scrutiny of the Chief Engineer (Highways), and the work will be taken up for execution in due course subject to the availability of funds."

House-rent allowance drawn by Hon. Ministers.

* 465 *Q.*—Sri Y. V. KRISHNA RAO (on behalf of Sri S. S. Kolkebail) : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Ministers are drawing house-rent allowance while they are having their own houses in the City of Madras; and

(*b*) if so, the names of such Ministers?

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"(*a*) & (*b*) House allowance is being paid to two of the Ministers, Sri Sethupathi and Dr. U. Krishna Rao.

" The Chief Minister is living in a house belonging to his children but he has also taken on rent another house for additional accommodation.

" The ownership of the house in the occupation of the Minister for Rural Welfare vests in the Construction Society and will continue to be so for nine years more."

Alleged booking of " B " Memoranda in the names of political sufferers in Ongole.

* 466 *Q.*—Sri K. VENKAIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Sub-Collector, Ongole, issued instructions to his subordinates in the year 1950 that the " B " Memoranda be booked in the names of the political sufferers for the lands they applied for, in spite of the fact that the lands were under the encroachment of the landless poor and other sections of the people;

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(b) whether it is a fact that the above matter was brought to the notice of the Government; and

(c) if so, what the action taken thereon was?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—

" (a) No such instructions were issued by the Sub-Collector, Ongole, in 1950.

" (b) Does not arise.

" (c) Does not arise."

The Romperu drainage scheme.

* 467 Q.—SRI V. SRI KRISHNA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for the delay in the execution of the Romperu drainage scheme;

(b) how long it will take to complete the scheme; and

(c) whether the Government have got any proposal to utilize the water from this drain for irrigation purposes?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House."

Alleged discharge of certain blind people from the School for the Blind.

* 468 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how many blind people were recently discharged from the School for the Blind in Madras run by the Government, and if so, what were the reasons for the same?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Education) :—" Thirteen inmates of the Government School for the Blind, Poonamallee, were expelled from the school for gross misconduct and unruly behaviour. Two of them have since been readmitted on their giving an assurance of good behaviour in future."

Resettlement in the South Arcot district.

* 469 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Sri Aranganathan is not in his seat and the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) when the Government propose to take up the resettlement work in the South Arcot district; and

(b) in how many districts of this State the settlement work is in force?

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 791 infra.